



“Where Faith and Life Connect”

The Order of Worship December 30, 2018  
11:00 A.M.

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

THE CHURCH GATHERS . . .

Welcome to Westminster Church! We are a family of Christians gathered from many traditions and neighborhoods, worshiping here with the goal of connecting faith and life. If you are a visitor, we pray you will feel welcome and blessed by our worship. We invite you to consider making Westminster your church home. Please let us have your contact information so we may be in touch.

Children are welcome in worship here. A nursery is available during the entire service. Any who are baptized are invited to receive the elements of the Lord's Supper.

When the prelude begins let us quietly prepare for the worship of almighty God.

PRELUDE Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern Dieterich Buxtehude  
How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

OPPORTUNITIES AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O come, all ye faithful.

People: **We return to this holy space to rest in the presence of the living God.**

Leader: O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

People: **We come to receive the life-giving gift of God's presence among us.**

Leader: Let us worship God.

TO PRAISE AND CONFESS ...

\*HYMN NO. 57 (blue hymnal) The Snow Lay on the Ground Venite Adoremus

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Gracious God, the loud, flashy, persistent distractions of the world hide your face from us. We have made it through the holidays the best we can, but, looking back, we can see we were often too busy to pay attention to you. We have not stopped to marvel at your decision to come into our world as newborn baby, the son of Mary, a young Jewish mother in Palestine. Forgive us, O God, and re-orient us to turn toward you. Help us grow ever closer to you. Open our hearts to the abiding presence of the Word made flesh that still dwells among us full of grace and truth.

\*KYRIE ELEISON Healey Willan

(Congregation singing—music is found on the inside cover of the red hymnal)

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

(First part: women; second: men; third: all)

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News!

People: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

\*RESPONSE Gloria Patri No. 579 (blue hymnal) Henry W. Greatorex

TO EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD AND RESPOND ...

SCRIPTURE I Samuel 2:18-20, 26

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN Amy Rawe

Children age 4 through 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to go downstairs and participate in Sunday School.

SCRIPTURE Luke 2:39-52

SERMON “Growing Up Toward God” Rev. Ann Brunger

\*HYMN NO. 49 (blue hymnal) Once in Royal David's City Irby

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)  
A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

**In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel who alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God whom Jesus called Abba, Father. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

THE OFFERING

Please sign and pass the Friendship Register found on the pew nearest the center aisle.

Though many of us contribute electronically or by a check in the mail, your holding and passing the offering plate is an act of blessing and dedication to our life together in Jesus Christ.

OFFERTORY What Is This Lovely Fragrance Paul Manz  
Quelle est cette odeur agréable

\*AT THE PRESENTATION Doxology No. 591 (blue hymnal) Tallis' Canon  
(Sung to the tune of Hymn No. 542 (blue hymnal))

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE ...

\*HYMN NO. 299 (blue hymnal) Amen, Amen Irregular

Cantor: Daniel Berry

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 586 (blue hymnal) Amen

Danish melody

\*POSTLUDE From Heaven Above

Wilbur Held

Vom Himmel hoch

\*Indicates standing.

NOW THE SERVICE BEGINS

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR TODAY

PASTORAL CARE ELDERS FOR THE WEEK: Cindy Pearman and Buz Johnson

CARE TEAM COORDINATOR FOR THIS WEEK: Susan McKeehan

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS AND HEARING DEVICES are available from the ushers.

PLEASE place your bulletin into a blue recycling bin located at the Narthex door if you do not care to take it home.

SERVING TODAY

LITURGIST: Barbara Adamcik

ACOLYTES: Kara Porter and Macy Porter

GREETERS: Chip and Pat Herzog

SHEPHERD'S TEAM: John Salsbery

SENIOR USHER: Bill Wiesehuegel

USHERS: Mary Lou Crow, Andrew and Kristi Gordon, Bob Daverman, Reed Ellis

AN INVITATION INTO DEEPER REFLECTION on how God is speaking to you today. Recall the rites of passage in your own life when you became aware of your identity as a child of God. What happened when you were pulled in one direction by your family and in another direction by God? God claimed the lives of Samuel and Hannah, and Jesus and Mary for special purposes. What is God's claim on your life?

OUR THANKS to Eileen Rudd for serving as organist this morning while Peter Van Eenam is away.

THE MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CLASS meets Thursday, January 3 at 10:00 a.m. in the SHOW room.

WE RETURN TO OUR REGULAR WORSHIP SCHEDULE next Sunday, January 6 with worship at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. and Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

CHURCH OFFICE will be closed for the New Year Holiday on January 1st.

**Adult Sunday School**

Classes will resume on January 6.

All Sunday school classes begin at 10:00 a.m. each week.

**Bible Study** - Adult Bible study meets in the library and is led by Scott Brunger. The class will be studying Revelation.

**The Wired Word** - Led by a rotating group of teachers, this class takes a look at how scripture addresses current topics. All you need is a smart phone or tablet. The class meets in the Prayer Room.

**Feasting on the Word** - This lectionary-based study provides some background for the scriptures read during worship each week. Also led by a teaching team, this class meets in the McKinnon Room.

**Faith and Life** - Meets in the Fellowship Hall.

**2019 FLOWER DEDICATIONS:** Please sign up on the Schilling Gallery bulletin board for your 2019 flower dedications. We ask for a \$65.00 donation to the Flower Guild, payable on the date of your dedication. A reminder card will be mailed to you in advance of your chosen Sunday.

**MINISTRY TEAM NIGHT** is Tuesday, January 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. The Property ministry team will provide our refreshments.

**COLLEGE MONTREAT:** Montreat is presenting a College Montreat Conference once again this year. The College Montreat will be from January 2-5, 2019. This year, the theme of the conference is Compassionate Community. One of the keynote speakers is the well-known interfaith teacher and activist, Eboo Patel! The conference preacher is Aisha Brooks-Lytle (who inspired us at Montreat last summer.) The cost for college-aged participants is \$100. There are scholarships for anyone who needs them. If you are interested in attending, contact Barbara Adamcik. Thanks to Sandra and Gary Rowcliffe for chaperoning this great event!!

**KIDS CORNER**

**Nursery**- Our nursery is available for children 0-5 years old during the 9:00 service, and children 0-3 years old during the 11:00 service.

**Children’s Fellowship** (10:00)- All children 4th grade and younger meet downstairs for an opportunity to spend time together completing crafts, service projects, and seasonal activities.

**Sunday School** (11:15):- Kids 4 years old - 4th grade are invited to join us downstairs for Sunday School after the children’s sermon. We’ll divide into two age groups and work our way through the “Holy Moly” curriculum.

**FINAL 2018 CONTRIBUTIONS** as well as any 2019 prepaid offerings need to be in the church office by December 31. All offerings received by December 31 will be included in your 2018 contribution statement. If you have any questions regarding your contributions, please contact the church office. The church office will be open on December 31 from 9:00 to 1:00 pm.

**WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Rev. Dr. Buran Phillips, Pastor

Rev. John Linton Muntz, Parish Associate

Peter Van Eenam, Organist and Choirmaster

Barbara Adamcik, Director of Youth and Connectional Ministries

Allie Brewington, Director of Children’s Ministries

Mary Boyd, Education Coordinator

Renee Wiesehuegel, Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Melissa Everett, Administrative Assistant

Debbie Bendy, *Abbey* Editor

**THE SESSION**

**Class of 2019**

Debbie Babelay

Daniel Collins

Vicki Mayfield

Cindy Pearman

Jay Schmid

Youth Elder: Maggie Gordon

Clerk of Session: Leigh Dunlap

**Class of 2020**

Scott Brunger

James Everett

Andrew Gordon

Susan McKeehan

Shawn Owens

**Class of 2021**

Brian Bonnyman

Anne Crais

Amy Gilbert

Buz Johnson

Rachel Powell

**TRUSTEES**

Alice Mercer

Reed Ellis

Jeff Browning